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I hereby certify that this correspondence for Application No. 09/160,991 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 25, 2004.

Kristi L. Davidson

Kristi L. Davidson, Reg. No. 44,643

5/25/04

Date

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appeal No.:	2004-0168
Serial No.:	09/160,991
Filed:	September 25, 1998
Group Art Unit:	3724
Examiner:	Hwei-Sui Payer
Applicant:	Cherng et al.
Title:	CUTTING DIE AND METHOD OF FORMING
Attorney Docket:	BERL-18A
Confirmation No.:	6990

Cincinnati, OH

May 25, 2004

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AND INTERFERENCES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

AMENDMENT

This paper is filed in support of Applicants' Request for Continued Examination following the Decision on Appeal mailed March 25, 2004 respecting the Examiner's final rejection of claims 1-22, 24-27 and 29-31 mailed July 16, 2002. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted together with the Request for Continued Examination.

- ## PATENT



The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 apply.

Complete (a) or (b) as applicable.

- (a) _____ Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 for the total number of months checked below:

Extension (months)	Fee for other than small entity	Fee for small entity
_____ one month	\$ 110.00	\$ 55.00
_____ two months	\$ 420.00	\$ 210.00
_____ three months	\$ 950.00	\$ 475.00
_____ four months	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 740.00
_____ five months	\$ 2,010.00	\$ 1,005.00

_____ Attached is a check in the amount of \$ _____ for the _____ month extension fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c).

_____ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-3000 in the amount of \$ _____.

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(Check and complete the next item, if applicable)

_____ An extension for _____ months has already been secured and the fee paid therefor of \$ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. Extension fee due with this request \$ _____.

OR

- (b) X Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

 X If any additional fee for claims or extension of time is required, charge Acct. No. 23-3000.

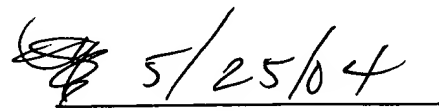
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